STATEMENT OF POLICY: The American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association, Inc. (APSNA) develops positions relevant to nursing practice, health policy, and social concerns impacting the health of patients and families. Position statements guide the profession, amplify the views of nursing, and educate consumers and decision makers.

Purpose: Position statements are recommendations supporting health, nursing and other positions which influence the surgical needs of children and the clinicians who provide care that are consistent with the mission, vision, values and goals of APSNA.

Position statements should be written by experts on the topic, including:
1. An existing committee, taskforce or special interest group
2. An individual or group that has been specially appointed by the APSNA Board of Directors (BOD) to write the position statement.

PROCEDURE:
I. Position statements will be:
   A. Developed using the template provided.
   B. Submitted to the Director of Practice and Quality (DPQ), upon the recommendation of existing committee, taskforce or special interest group, collectively if applicable or directly to the DPQ if appointed by the BOD.

II. The DPQ will submit the statement to the Educational Content Advisory Group (ECAG).
   A. The ECAG will review and provide edits or recommendation to the submitters if needed.
   B. The DPQ will send the recommended revisions back to the authors to make the recommended changes.
   C. When the changes are made and the statement returned to the DPQ, s/he will forward the revised statement to the BOD.
   D. If there are no changes recommended by the ECAG the DPQ will submit the document to the BOD.

III. The BOD will take one of the following three actions:
   A. Recommend posting the position statement to the membership for
comments.
1. The DPQ will submit the position statement for posting on the website and *News You Can Use (NYCU)* for a 30-day comment period. During this time, the membership will have the opportunity to submit comments to the DPQ.
2. After 30 days, all comments will be submitted by the DPQ to the BOD for review. All agreed upon recommendations will be forwarded to the submitters by the DPQ in order to make edits to the statement. Following incorporation of edits in the statement, and review by the DPQ the Web Administrator will post to the website at the direction of the Secretary.

B. **After review by the BOD, the BOD may recommend edits to the position statement before the public period by the membership.**
   1. The edits will be forwarded to the submitters by the DPQ.
   2. The submitters will have 30 days to complete the recommended revisions and return the revised position statement to the DPQ.
   3. After the revisions are complete, the DPQ will submit the revised position statement to the BOD for final approval. Once final approval is obtained, the DPQ will submit the position statement to the Secretary who will direct the Web Administrator to post on the website and *NYCU* for a 30-day comment period. During this time, the membership will have the opportunity to submit comments to the DPQ.
   4. After 30 days, all received comments will be submitted by the DPQ to the BOD for review. All agreed upon recommendations will be forwarded to the submitters in order to make edits to the statement. Following incorporation of edits, the statement will be posted to the website by the Web Administrator at the direction of the Secretary. If there are no edits, the statement will be posted as is to the website by the Web Administrator at the direction of the Secretary.

C. **Recommend rejecting the position statement as not consistent with APSNA’s mission, vision and values.**

IV. The new position statement, once accepted, will be announced to the membership via *NYCU* and social media venues and posted under Resources-Publication-Position statements on the APSNA website.

V. Position statements will be published on the APSNA website for five years.
   A. If the Board becomes aware of contradictory information before the five-year period, the DPQ will:
      1. Request the removal of the position statement from the website if the contradictory information is of solid evidence and of significant concern.
      2. Communicate with the existing committee, taskforce or special interest group assigned to update or formally retire the position statement.
   B. Notification of updates, reformatting or retirement of an existing
position will be done six months before the 5-year expiration, by the DPQ.

C. Review of position statements as related to A or B above, will be sent to the committee, task force or special interest group involved with the previous publication or the DPQ for assignment in the case of an individual or group that has been specially appointed by the APSNA BOD to review and/or re-write the position statement. If individual names appear on the position statement at the time of 5 year review they will be replaced by the reviewing committee collectively.
Title of Position Statement

Description
One or more paragraph(s) that describe the problem and the scope of the problem.

APSNA Position
It is the position of APSNA that:

1. XXXX
2. XXXX
3. XXXX

Background
Background of the problem and summary of the literature to support the proposed position statement, using one or more paragraphs.

References
List references in APA format

Effective Date: XXXX
Originated by:
Adopted by: APSNA Board of Directors
Original approval: (Date)
Reaffirmed on: (Date)
Reaffirmed by: XXX Committee

Position statements are approved by the APSNA BOD. Once approved by the BOD, they become official position statements and are added to the existing position statement library. In no sense do they represent a standard of care. They are not a product of a systematic review. Position statements are not intended to and should not be treated as legal, medical, or business advice. Readers are encouraged to consider the information presented and reach their own conclusions.